

Torrance, California  
March 28, 1939

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, March 28, 1939 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present present being Councilman: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman McGuire moved the minutes of a regular meeting held March 14, 1939 be approved as written. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Melvin J. Trabold, 4839 Compton Boulevard, Lawndale, submitting claim amounting to \$10.00 for damage to tire and tube, due to the alleged negligence of Glenn M. Jain while surveying. Referred to the City Attorney for investigation and recommendation at the next meeting.

A communication was read from J.L. Archer, applying for refund on license issued October 29, 1938 for operation of the Border Club Cafe, 1741 Border Avenue.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication be filed. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Wm. A Kirk asking that 233rd be repaired. Councilman Hitchcock advised the request will be complied with as soon as possible.

A communication was read from C.A. Benzel, requesting the grading and surfacing of Andreo Avenue between Santa Fe and Sepulveda Boulevard. Referred to the Street Department.

A communication was read from J.M. Christensen, suggesting the widening of the sidewalk on the southeast side of Marcelina Avenue between Sartori avenue and Cravens Avenue, said widening to begin at the corner of the F.L. Parks building and extend to the alley.

Councilman McGuire moved that the matter be referred to the Engineering Department for investigation.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Southwest Cities Flood Control Association, addressed to Glenn M. Jain, asking Mr. Jain, and the Committee of which he is a member, to cooperate in obtaining a flood control project in the Nigger Slough area by contacting Major Theodore Wayman, 751 South Figueroa, and stressing the importance of such a project.

Councilman Hitchcock moved the communication be filed for further reference. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, together with a communication from the Bellflower Chamber of Commerce, requesting appearance of the Torrance Municipal Band in the forthcoming Bellflower Light Way Celebration May 19, 1939.

Councilman Powell moved the communication be filed, which motion was lost for want of a second.

The matter was deferred until the next meeting.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce regarding the request of the Junior Musicians Society for an appropriation of \$400.00. It was pointed out another similar request had been refused and that the request of the Junior Musicians Society could not be viewed discriminatorily; therefore, it was denied.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be instructed to notify the Junior Musicians Society of the action of the Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce calling attention to the desired extension and improvement of Western Avenue southerly from Torrance Boulevard. It

was suggested that the Torrance City Council communicate with the Los Angeles City Council with the view to their handling the Torrance portion together with the Los Angeles City portion.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that a communication be forwarded to the Los Angeles City Council to ascertain their recommendation and attitude and the expense to be incurred by the City of Torrance. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the State of California Department of Public Works enclosing estimate of apportionment of 1/4-cent gas tax allocation for the 1939-41 biennium, the total amount for the City of Torrance being \$16,340.00. Presented as a matter of record.

A communication was read from the office of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, advising that beginning July 1, 1939 1/4-cent gas tax monies will be paid to the cities each quarter as the monies are received from the State of California, except in case of emergencies prevailing in any particular city. Presented as a matter of record.

A communication was read from the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce, requesting either the macadamizing of Cherry Street westerly from Redondo Avenue, or the installation of an intersectional light at this point. Referred to the Engineering Department for investigation and recommendation at the next meeting.

A communication was read from the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce, requesting that chuck-holes in the pavement of 166th Street and Cherry Avenue be eliminated. Referred to the Street Department.

A communication was read from the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce, requesting installation of sodium vapor light or some other form of illumination at the intersection of Redondo Beach Boulevard and Redondo Avenue. Referred to the Lighting Committee for recommendation.

A communication was read from John H. Stroh requesting an additional appropriation of \$500.00 for completion of the new pistol range.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$500.00 be made for completion of the pistol range. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Engineer Young reported the Pacific Electric Railway Company had been authorized to proceed with installation of culvert under El Prado near Western Avenue, said work to begin very soon.

Mayor Tolson said that the culvert which was authorized some time ago will be delivered tomorrow, March 29, 1939.

Engineer Young reported receipt of a letter from the Division of Highways in which it was stated that the proposed improvement of Crenshaw Boulevard and 190th Street had been reviewed and approved by the Sacramento office and giving authority to advertise for bids. It was requested that a summary of bids be forwarded their office when they are received.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for improvement of Crenshaw Boulevard and 190th Street. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be author-

ized to purchase at once necessary material to repair culvert under El Prado near Western Avenue, which has caved in, creating a hazardous condition. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$1800.00 be made for improvement of the lighting system at the Municipal Park. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for wiring, material@ conduit and fixtures for improvement of the lighting system at the Municipal Park. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney McCall reported regarding the Matoon Act bonds against properties on 182nd Street and Prairie Avenue. He said the bond issues will mature in 1940 and 1942 and he had suggested to some of the property owners that since there are from 50 to 75 percent delinquencies, that if these assessments are not paid now, they might be bought for less after maturity of the bonds.

In the matter of the proposed ordinance prohibiting heavy trucking on certain streets, Attorney McCall advised that posting of the streets is the only requirement, since Ordinance No. 119 of the City of Torrance is flexible enough to cover the matter.

Councilman Powell moved that Director of Public Safety Stroh be instructed to post the necessary street with signs prohibiting heavy trucking in compliance with Ordinance No. 119. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett reported receipt of Policy of Title Insurance on Lot 34, Block A, Tract 7506. (Joseph W. Venable property adjacent to the Walteria Fire Station).

Clerk Bartlett reported receipt of option to purchase Kettler property fully signed March 20, 1939.

Mayor Tolson reported he had a conference with Mr. Jacobs, one of the Councilmen of the City of Gardena, at which time the feasibility of establishing a municipal bus service was discussed. Mayor Tolson appointed Councilman McGuire and Attorney McCall to represent the City Council at future meetings to be held for discussion of this subject.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Brown suggested the northwest corner of Torrance Boulevard and Cedar Avenue as being well adapted for park purposes and said the community would benefit by having a park in that particular part of the town. Mr. Brown also pointed out the merits of such a proposal and urged that it be given some consideration.

Mr. Whitehurst of the Whitehurst Aerial Company Inc., advised that his company is making aerial pictures of various regions for the Regional Planning Commission and can, therefore, offer the different cities a good aerial picture of their towns, which can be used for planning and zoning, at a very nominal cost. He submitted a picture of the City of San Pedro as an example.

Councilman McGuire suggested that Mr. Whitehurst submit specifications of his pictures and details as to the actual cost to the City of Torrance, which Mr. Whitehurst agreed to do.

Councilman McGuire moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At the request of Attorney McCall, Councilman Hitchcock moved Attorney McCall be granted a leave of absence for two weeks, to begin approximately April 4. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 8:50 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman McGuire, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Bantlett  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

W. H. Tolson  
Mayor of the City of Torrance